

## Reminiscences of Hanalei Kauai

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By Mrs. T. J. King

[Continued from last issue]

### Lady Franklin

She was a small little lady with grey hair and keen grey eyes, and had several eccentricities; among them was a whim to sleep in her own bed, which she took about with her, a sort of a cot and used in spite of the trouble it often made to find room for it. She took long walks with us children and let her skirts get full of "kukus" which we had to pick out for her while she told us stories of the Noman Kings. She never arose until ten o'clock in the morning, and sat up writing until mid-night. She had much to do with making mother dissatisfied with her life at Hanalei, and told her that she did wrong to bring her family up in such a lonely "out of the world" sort of a place and urged her to let her have my sister Lina to take to England to educate. We met her ten years afterwards in San Francisco, and I dined with her at the Cosmopolitan Hotel one evening.

### A Royal Birthday

On May 20, 1861, at Mr. Wyllie's request, father had a big celebration on the plantation in honor of the little Prince of Hawaii's fourth birthday. I wrote an account of it for Mr. Wyllie and he had the same translated into Hawaiian and printed in the "Hae Hawaii" of July 31, 1861. In September 1862 the little fellow died in Honolulu of brain fever. The celebration consisted of a parade of two hundred Hawaiian men and women on horse-back dressed alike, the men in red and white shirts and blue pants, and the women in red and yellow pau's and malle leis. They rode through the valley, crossed the river and rode to the top of the hill, where a feast and games had been prepared for them and in which the family joined. In the evening large bon fires were lighted in the low lands, and on the hill tops, making a fine display and discharging bombs which resembled cannonading.

### The Advent of Sugar

In 1862, the coffee trees were uprooted on the Princeville Plantation and sugar cane planted in the valley instead. The coffee had been attacked by a mealy blight, and the returns did not warrant the up-keep. Mr. Wyllie had gotten the sugar craze. Mr. Titcomb took up his coffee too and planted cane, and I think made the first sugar in Hanalei. His mill was run by horse power and he had no centrifugals to dry his sugar but his golden syrup was beautiful.

After father took off the first sugar crop in 1863, we left Hanalei for the second and last time, and I was the only one of the family who returned on visits more than once. Mr. Alexander McGregor took the management when father left.

### A Model Mill

During 1860 and 1861, Mr. Wyllie, bought lands on the hills above Princeville as far as Kalihiwai and added much to the estate. The sugar mill was put up under the supervision of Mr. Henck, a German, a partner in a mercantile business in town with Mr. von Holt Sr. The machinery came from Glasgow Scotland and cost about forty thousand dollars and was run by steam. The whole plantation was sold at Mr. Wyllie's death in 1866 for twenty thousand dollars.

### Cheap Labor

Chinese laborers had been tried during the fifties, some as early as fifty-one, but father preferred Hawaiians and could always get all the men he needed among them. Many of them lived on the estate and their wages were twenty-five cents a day. Our house-women were paid three dollars a month and found themselves. They got

their fish from the river and the taro grew on the plantation.

### An Adventure all but Serious

I visited Hanalei with two of my sisters in 1866 and was present at the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bindt, Louise Johnson who was, and while on a horse-back trip to the caves at Haena one day I had an adventure in the Wainiha river which was very exciting. I had ridden ahead of the party I was with and started to ford the river with, Henry Wilcox, a little lad of nine years of age at the time, not knowing that it was high tide and that the horses would have to swim a long distance. It was too late to turn back, so we had to trust to luck, and my horses strength to get across safely which he did following Henry's horse and both landing just as my saddle slipped over my horses tail. I was soaked to my arm pits and pretty badly frightened, but "all's well that ends well." The rest of the party rode up the river bank to the upper ford after watching us safely across; there were no bridges in Wainiha then, altho there were ferry scows at Lumahai and at Hanalei and Kalihiwai. I never liked crossing on them, for I was pushed off one at Princeville once by a kicking horse and never got over the fright. Most horses were nervous on them, and they were often leaky and tipped too much for comfort, mentally and otherwise. In the very old times natives paddled people over the rivers in canoes and swam our horses over for us, which was the safest if not the most convenient method.

### Schools and Teaching

In 1867, I lived with the Johnson family in Waioli, teaching with Julia J. in the Government school there. Our hours were, from eight o'clock in the morning until twelve. We taught in English but found it an advantage to understand Hawaiian. I cannot remember the text books that we used, with the exception of the geography which was Cornells. Composition was always hard for the Hawaiians but they liked arithmetic and were very quick at figuring. Mr. Fornander was school inspector or superintendent at that time and paid us a visit at the end of the summer term which was quite an event for teachers as well as pupils.

### Children and Outings

There was a blind Hawaiian boy, named Henry who played very sweetly on a bamboo flute and composed Hawaiian verses sometimes, who often came to visit our school, and during recess hour would entertain us with his plaintive music. The native children were very affectionate and obliging and loved to be with us whenever we were willing to have them, often accompanying us on our horse-back rides after school over the hill and into the valleys gathering ohia's, pohas and limes which grew in abundance everywhere. The Johnson's had some very good horses, nearly all named after late American Generals. Sherman being my especial favorite. I rode him all the way from Hanalei to Lihue once, Julia on her Hero, and Mr. McBryde as our escort. He was in a hurry to get home, so we had to make time too, to keep up with him. We made the trip in about eight hours, resting for dinner about five o'clock at Mr. Krolls in Kealia.

### Famous Visitors

During that summer the "U. S. S. Lackawanna" under command of Capt. Reynolds, who had lived in Lihue once came to Hanalei for target practice. She had been in Honolulu for several months, and her captain and officers were all well known there. Mrs. Reynolds came with her husband also Princess Ruth and Emily Corney, a younger sister of the late Miss Fanny Corney and Mrs. Dudoit. The princess staid at Wai-

oli with judge Wana's family and we often saw her lounging on the beach with her retainers and her two little white poodle dogs whom she was very fond of. The other ladies visited at Princeville, and John Low the manager entertained the party quite extensively, getting up a large picnic and fish or "kahe" drive on the Hanalei river near Kuna on one occasion to which we were all invited. The kahe was built in the middle of the river near the rapids by a fine Kukui grove where the alahaina or feast was spread. When school was out Julia J. and I rode up the river bank to the rendezvous, and as we neared the spot where the fish were being driven down and caught, we saw Ruth in a pink muumuu having a bath and finally getting into the "kahe" and catching the mullet herself, beheading, and enjoying the tid-bits that she found. When she emerged later from her dressing room in the guava bushes in her black silk holoku she looked quite regal and happy as she embraced her lady friends and saluted them in the usual Hawaiian manner.

The Lackawanna had target practice for several days and a number of us from the mission were invited on board on one occasion to luncheon and to witness the exercises which I certainly did not enjoy. The reports from the guns were deafening and the smell of the powder and smoke sickening.

Before the vessel went back to town John Low gave the visitors another picnic and trip to the caves at Haena. Four of the ships boats sailed around, and carried the provisions for the lunch, and some of the officers and men. The rest of us went on horseback over the trail. Emily Corney was the only white woman who rode astride with pau's. On the return trip about four o'clock in the afternoon Julia J. and I loaned our horses to two of the officers, and went with Lieut. Mead and his crew in one of the boats. We sailed in company with the three other boats and had a long cold trip of four hours beating against a strong breeze which was blowing off shore. John Low was so "huhu" with us for taking the trip, but we enjoyed the experience. The sailors in their cantime whiled away the hours singing songs and

kept us all in good spirits until we landed safely at eight o'clock on the Waioli beach near the mouth of the Hanalei river where the overland party awaited us with lanterns and our horses.

### Happy Sundays

Among the happiest recollections of my stay at the mission with the Johnson family in 1867 were the very pleasant Sunday evenings which were spent after devotions in singing hymns to the accompaniment of the melodion which Julia or Mrs. Bindt always played. Sunday was a peaceful day. The forenoon was devoted to religious services in the dear old church, whose bell I often hear in fancy still calling us to prayers.

Luncheon was a cold meal, all the cooking having been done on the previous day. The menu usually consisting of bread and butter and cold meats, pumpkin pies or cakes and raw sliced or sometimes stewed guavas.

### All Changed and Gone

I returned to Honolulu and my father's home at Christmas time, and did not visit Hanalei again until September 1889, twenty-two years later, when I returned on a visit with my sister, Mrs. Frank Brown, to find the Koellings living there, and the house where I had passed the happiest days of my life altered and old, nearly all the trees on the river banks gone and the valley planted in rice which gave it a dismal swampy appearance. Cane growing on the hills instead of the lovely old "Hala" trees and fences everywhere, but the river was still there, and the grand old mountains, nothing can destroy or change them and there Hanalei is sleeping still.

### PASSENGERS ARRIVED

The following arrived by the Kinanau Wednesday morning:—Mrs. Ebeling, Miss Ebeling, A. O. Bottleson, C. Weibke, Rev. Carver, Mr. and Mrs. De Spain and son, T. M. Church, S. Kirihara, Mr. and Mrs. Tsuda, Mrs. Dehay, Matsuo, Miss L. Kahaule, H. P. Faye, A. Haneberg, S. S. Peck, Rev. H. Isenberg, F. Homes, Harry Ito and wife, I. Uycooka and wife, E. K. C. Yap, Vincent Akina, Mrs. M. Martin, Chock Chong,

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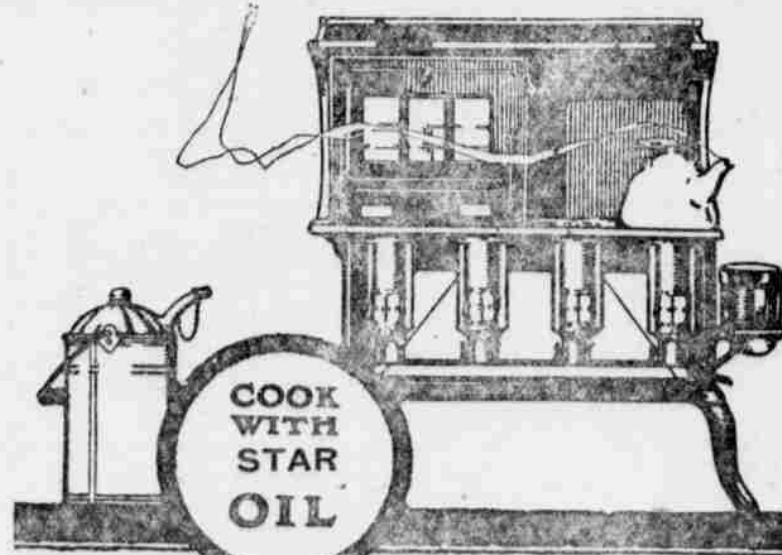
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